



**STOKES'**  
**TOMATO SEED**  
**for 1956**

*Contract Prices to  
Wholesale Seed Houses*

**FRANCIS C. STOKES COMPANY**

Vincentown, New Jersey

Phone — Vincentown 7011

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In choosing sources for your 1956 tomato seed, your choice will favor growers who offer experience and superb seed stocks at costs which are commensurate with values received. We believe this folder will throw light on these essentials.

## KNOW-HOW AND EXPERIENCE MUST BE COUNTED

*75 years ago, November 30, 1881, Walter P. Stokes entered the general seed business in Philadelphia.*

25 years ago, this company moved to its plant at Vincentown, New Jersey, and adopted a policy of specialization. Ours is one of the few seed firms devoting its energy to tomatoes. After 75 years, our great concern is to have an eye for a plant.

*A routine of "two appraisals per year" has developed superb planting stocks.*

It has also speeded up and made possible the widely accepted Stokescross F-2 strains. The Summer and Winter Proving Grounds are located at Vincentown, N. J. (20 miles from Philadelphia), and at Santa Clara, Cuba, (200 miles from Havana).

*Concentration has focused on fewer varieties*

In 1898, Johnson & Stokes offered 38 tomato varieties. In 1956, we offer 9 tomato varieties. We believe that each of these approaches a point of perfection, but these 9 take constant effort through single plant selection and hybridization. We are, of course, aware that our 9 varieties do not cover the entire field, but as Tomato Specialists, we prefer to confine our breeding and growing projects.

*Seed saving equipment and germination*

Very new we assure you. Following a devastating \$400,000 fire on June 15, 1955, which destroyed our tomato plant, a fire-resistant building was erected and equipped in 35 days. You are invited to inspect this modern plant as well as our Proving Ground and growing fields next Summer. We are taking a new approach to germination problems. Complete bag-by-bag tests will be made of all stocks. These tests will be made on a 7 day and a 14 day basis, and results will appear on every label. A fast start is the essence of good germination.

*Seed treatment at no extra cost*

DuPont Ceresan M we have found to be the most effective for controlling bacteria and fungi on tomato seed. This will be applied on all contract seed unless you ask for untreated seed when the contract is signed. All seed will be given agar plate tests.

*We will deliver in air-tight cans, or in Bemis A Bags*

The 50 lb. Bemis A Bag will be billed at market. The hermetically sealed cans will be supplied free, if resale is made in these containers. Space on the can will be allowed for your label as distributor. The container has two important functions, (1) Identification of the seed source. (2) Maintenance of germination under all weather conditions. As tomato specialists, we consider that every detail must be given our best care.

## STOKES VARIETIES FOR 1956

### **Our Standard Tomatoes:**

**Valiant**—68 days. A Stokes introduction of 1937. Its use must be restricted to extra-early maturity. The foliage is not adequate for hot weather, (regardless of a possible \$4.00 per package market that is often attained). Stock seed is of our own 18 year selection. Fruit size, 5 ounces.

**Stokesdale**—70 days. A Stokes introduction of 1936. A half-brother of Valiant but with deeper color and twice the foliage. Stokesdale has been important in our northern tier states and in Canada. Fruit size, 5 ounces.

**Marglobe**—77 days. This Master strain is one of the most perfectly formed tomatoes and is held in high regard by the shipping trade. Foliage is ample. Our company has taken an important part in maintaining the purity of this famous Fred Pritchard introduction over the past 30 years. Fruit size, 5½ ounces.

**Rutgers**—85 days. For type purity we go each year to the introducer, Professor L. G. Schermerhorn of Rutgers University. This seed is produced directly from his Mother Strain, which in our opinion, is the deluxe Rutgers of the United States. Professor Schermerhorn has maintained size and type purity without a break since its introduction in 1936. Fruit size, 6½ ounces.

**Homestead No. 2.** This No. 2 is a later development of Homestead put out through the Sub-Tropical Experiment Station at Homestead, Florida. This is generally considered to be superior to the original. It is highly Fusarium Wilt resistant and this has given it an increasingly wide distribution across the United States. It is already widely accepted in many areas. Fruit size, 6 ounces.

### **Our F-2 Tomatoes:**

(We are the largest producers of F-2 Tomato Seed in the U. S.)

We grow these from our original F-1 Hybrid Seed. An F-1 Hybrid Tomato, to be successful, must have strong, but divergent parents. These we are continually testing and crossing under varying conditions. An F-1 Hybrid carries an accumulation of favorable growth factors. These are directly related to flavor factors. Flavor in tomatoes deserves close study by the industry.

F-2s account for 50 per cent of our tonnage. They are out-producing any tomatoes on our list. High vigor means high yield and high quality. The Stokesescross strains are recommended to your most critical trade. (They have helped at least one New Jersey farmer to turn out a \$1000 per acre gross over a number of years.) We suggest that you study these specifications with great care, remembering that an F-2 tomato closely approaches the vigor of an F-1, but is available at a fraction of the cost.

**Stokescross No. 1**—70 days. One of the most important developments of our company. Its early maturity, together with its ability to set fruit under adverse temperatures, has given it a place of importance. The first position of the New Jersey State Quality Award in 1955 was given to a contract grower who produced Stokescross No. 1. Average tonnage, 10.17 tons per acre, a high figure for 1955. Fruit size, 5½ ounces.

**Stokescross No. 4**—75 days. This tomato is in strong demand by the greenwrap trade and by processors. Like all of our F-2s, it will set readily, it will develop full color to the stem, and its interior structure will allow long distance transportation. Fruit size, 5 ounces.

**Stokescross No. 5**—77 days. This No. 5 will develop a strong vine. The blossoms set readily yielding in excess of 30 tons per acre under ideal conditions. Stokescross No. 5 is highly recommended either for market or for processing. Fruit size, 6 ounces.

**Stokescross No. 6**—77 days. A new introduction for 1956. The choice of parents for Stokescross No. 6 *has developed a crack resistance of approximately 80 per cent.* At the same time, No. 6 has shown some resistance to Fusarium Wilt. It has already been tested in many parts of the United States. Like all new introductions, it still must earn its acceptance. We consider it a tomato of great importance. Fruit size, 5½ ounces.

## 1956 PRICES TO WHOLESALE SEED HOUSES:

The following prices are quoted to your firm with the understanding that contracts are written prior to February 1, 1956. These prices are in U. S. currency, F.O.B. Vincentown, N. J. Shipment will be made as soon as the seed is prepared after harvest. The kind of package, and the treatment of seed, should be designated. The terms of payment are 1½% 10 days; net 60 days.

		1 to 24 pounds	25 to 99 pounds	100 lbs. and over
Valiant	N. J. Certified . . . .	\$4.00	\$3.80	\$3.60
Stokesdale	N. J. Certified . . . .	3.40	3.20	3.00
Marglobe	N. J. Certified . . . .	3.40	3.20	3.00
Rutgers	N. J. Certified . . . .	2.90	2.70	2.50
Homestead	No. 2 . . . . .	5.40	5.20	5.00
Stokescross No. 1, F-2	. . . . .	5.40	5.20	5.00
Stokescross No. 4, F-2	. . . . .	5.40	5.20	5.00
Stokescross No. 5, F-2	. . . . .	5.40	5.20	5.00
Stokescross No. 6, F-2	. . . . .	5.40	5.20	5.00